GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5754
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2001
FACILITIES AT TOURIST PLACES
SAHIB SINGH VERMA

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the main tourist places in the country where maximum number of foreign tourists visited during 2001-02, till date;

(b) whether all the modern facilities are available at the said tourist places;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of complaints lodged by the visitors and the nature of these complaints;

(e) the action taken by the concerned authorities on these complaints; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to encourage inflow of more foreign tourists into the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTHKUMAR)

(a): Tourist places on the basis of number of visits made by the foreign tourists are not identified every year. According to the International Passenger Survey Report on Foreign Touristsdated December, 1999, tourist places visited by significant number of foreign tourists are Delhi, Mumbai, Agra, Chennai, Kolkata, Jaipur, Varanasi, Bangalore, Panjim and Udaipur.

(b): Facilities at tourist places are provided by the concerned State Governments/U.T. Administrations.Department of Tourism, however, provides financial assistance to the State Governments/U.T. Administrations for improvement in infrastructure facilities including wayside amenities, signages, public conveniences, parking areas, tourist reception centres, etc.

(c): Does not arise.

(d) and (e): During the year 2001 so far, 23 complaints mainly on cheating, harassment, etc. to tourists have been received in the Department of Tourism, Govt. of India and forwarded to the concerned authorities for appropriate action.

(f): Various measures taken/proposed to be taken to attract foreign tourists include development and improvement of tourist infrastructure facilities, publicity and marketing efforts in the overseas market and use of information technology.